

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00924 150921Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 INR-07 IO-13 PA-01  
PRS-01 SCA-01 EB-07 NSC-05 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00  
/052 W

-----150928Z 074523 /14

O 150835Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3341

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MUSCAT 0924

DEPARTMENT PASS AID/OFDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL MU

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON CYCLONE DAMAGE: SHOULD USG OFFER HELP?

REF: MUSCAT 0918

1. PEACE CORPS OFFICE HAS WORD THAT VOLUNTEERS IN TOWN  
OF SUR ARE SAFE. PEACE CORPS REPORTS THAT SUR SUFFERED  
NO MAJOR DAMAGE FROM STORN, ALTHOUGH 35 HOUSES IN TWO  
NEARBY VILLAGES WERE FLOODED, DISLODGING INHABITANTS AT  
LEAST TEMPORARILY. NOBODY HURT.

2. COMMANDER OF SULTANATE OF OMAN AIR FORCE (SOAF),  
COMMODORE ERIC BENNETT, CONFIRMS THAT VILLAGE OF BURASTI  
HUTS ON MASIRAH ISLAND WAS "DESTROYED." HE PUTS NUMBER  
OF PEOPLE HOMELESS AT 700 TO 1,000. SOAF HAS INSTALLED  
TENTS TO QUARTER THEM OVER COMING PERIOD AND IS FEEDING  
THEM FROM MILITARY SUPPLIES.

3. ACCORDING TO BENNETT, NO DAMAGE WAS SUSTAINED BY  
AIRCRAFT ON MASIRAH. SOME BUILDINGS AT SOAF TRAINING  
CENTER HAD ROOFS BLOWN OFF, BUT CENTER REMAINS FUNCTIONAL  
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AND REPAIRS CAN BE RAPID.

4. BENNETT BELIEVES SOAF CAN HANDLE EMERGENCY SITUATION ON  
MASIRAH, BUT HE SAID ASSISTANCE WAS COMING FROM MILITARY  
STOCKS AND FEEDING THE VILLAGERS IS A HEADACHE. IN HIS VIEW,  
A USG OFFER OF HELP TO THE OMANGOV "WOULD BE WELCOME."  
MOST USEFUL WOULD BE WHAT HE TERMED "PHASE TWO" AID, BY WHICH

HE MEANT HELP IN GETTING VILLAGERS OUT OF THE TENTS AND,  
POSSIBLY, SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD.

5. WE HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENT TO BENNETT OR ANYONE ELSE.  
WE THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL, HOWEVER, FOR USG TO CONSIDER A  
TIMELY OFFER OF FOOD OR MORE SUBSTANTIAL TEMPORARY QUARTERS

THAN TENTS. MEDICAL SUPPLIES MIGHT ALSO BE SUITABLE,  
ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT HEARD OF ANY PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM.  
WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND HELP IN BUILDING PERMANENT STRUCTURES  
FOR VILLAGERS, AS THAT GETS BEYOND EMERGENCY HELP INTO  
DEVELOPMENT AREA THAT WE BELIEVE OMANGOV CAN HANDLE  
ITSELF. WE WILL BE GUIDED BY DEPARTMENT AND WILL NOT APPROACH  
OMANGOV UNLESS INSTRUCTED. NEEDLESS TO SAY, AID SHOULD  
NOT BE COMMITTED UNTIL OFFER IS MADE AND OMANGOV ACCEPTS, FOR  
DESPITE BENNETT'S VIEW IT IS POSSIBLE OMANI AUTHORITIES WILL  
CONSIDER OUTSIDE HELP UNNECESSARY.

6. BARRING FURTHER SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION ON EFFECTS OF  
STORM, WE ANTICIPATE NO FURTHER UPDATE REPORTS.  
SIZER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** STORMS, DISASTER REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MUSCAT00924  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770213-0461  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770654/aaaabvnt.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 421b777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MUSCAT 918  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2143543  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UPDATE ON CYCLONE DAMAGE: SHOULD USG OFFER HELP?  
**TAGS:** SWEL, MU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/421b777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009